

line 14, change "objects and advantages" to --aspects of the invention--;

delete line 18;

line 19, change "The" to --One aspect of the--;

line 19, change "achieves the above objects by" to --is directed to--;

line 23, after "relevance" insert --only--;

line 24, change "the" (third occurrence) to --a--;

line 25, delete "present";

line 25, after "method" insert --consistent with the invention--; and

line 28, after "are" insert --necessarily--.

Page 5,

line 20, change "calculating an importance rank for N linked nodes" to

--scoring--;

line 21, change "of a linked database" to --linked documents--; and

lines 23-34, delete this section in its entirety and in its place insert:

—obtaining a plurality of documents, at least some of the documents being linked documents, at least some of the documents being linking documents, and at least some of the documents being both linked documents and linking documents, each of the linked documents being pointed to by a link in one or more of the linking documents; assigning a score to each of the linked documents based on scores of the one or more linking documents; and processing the linked documents according to their scores.

Additional aspects, applications and advantages will become apparent in view of the following description and associated figures.—

~~Page 6,~~

~~delete lines 1-9 in their entirety;~~

~~line 23, change "preferred embodiment" to --embodiments--; and~~

~~line 24, change "is" to --are.~~

~~Page 11,~~

~~line 27, change "a preferred" to --one particular--.~~

~~Page 12,~~

~~line 6, change "a preferred" to --another particular--; and~~

~~line 27, change "There" to --Consistent with the present invention, there--.~~

~~Page 14,~~

~~line 8, change "The present method has" to --Various implementations of the~~

~~invention have--.~~

~~Page 15,~~

~~line 10, change "Perhaps the most" to --Another--;~~

~~line 10, after "application" insert --and embodiment--;~~

~~line 10, delete "ranking";~~

~~line 11, change "technique is to enhance" to --invention is directed to
enhancing--;~~

~~line 12, change "the" (second occurrence) to --a--;~~

~~line 13, change "of" to --according to--;~~

line 15, change "the" to --a--;

line 16, change "has all the advantages of" to --provides--;

line 22, change "according to the method" to --as described above in connection

E³ with various exemplary embodiments--; and

line 28, change "idea" to --approach--.

Page 16,

line 13, delete "defined as"; and

line 19, change "embodiment" to --embodiments--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 36 as follows:

10) 36. (Twice Amended) A computer implemented method of ranking a plurality of linked documents, comprising:

E⁴ automatically performing a random traversal of a plurality of linked documents, [wherein performing a] the random traversal [includes] including selecting a random link to traverse in a current linked document;

for each linked document that is traversed, assigning a rank to the linked document that is dependent on the number of times the linked document has been traversed; and

processing the plurality of linked documents according to their rank.

Please add new claims 46-55 as follows:

E⁵ 46. The method of claim 18, wherein the assigning a score includes:

determining the score based on (1) a number of the linking documents that link to the